Attorney Docket No. 0920.0042C

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Robert C. Hartman, Jr. et al.

Serial No.:

09/489,730

Examiner:

Pham, Hung Q.

Confirmation No.: 6187

Art Unit:

2172

Filed:

January 21, 2000

For:

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)

Pursuant to the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 to disclose information which may be material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, the Applicant(s) would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO/SB/08). In accordance with this duty of disclosure, Applicant(s) hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98.

لاسكا	Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a copy of each document cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A is enclosed.
	The subject Information Disclosure Statement is being filed without copies of the listed U.S. Patents and/or U.S. patent application publications pursuant to the waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for applications filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed herewith.
	No copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are being provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) because the publications were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in prior Application Serial No to which the above-identified application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120.

Ц		ration(s) listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A were cited in a n search or examination report corresponding to
	§609	sed is a copy of a non-English publication(s) Pursuant to of the M.P.E.P., Applicant submits the attached foreign search or nation report, which cites such non-English language publication(s)
	langu	sed is a copy of a non-English publication(s) English age publication (copy enclosed) claims priority from this non h publication.
		sed is an explanation of non-English publication(s) for which glish translation is not available.
		sed is an English translation of non-English publication(s)n the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.
	Enclo	sed is a copy of pending patent Application Serial No
		ion Disclosure Statement is filed after the period specified in 37 before the mailing of:
	\boxtimes	a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113;
		a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311; or
		an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.
In accordance	e with 3	7 C.F.R. §1.97(c):
		The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) in the amount of \$180.00, and payment of any additional fees required for the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0460; or
		Statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):
		Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement cited herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
		No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure

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Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the above-noted information and return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to the undersigned.

Dated: 12/3/04

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Respectfully submitted by

EDELL, SHAPIRO & FINNAN, LLC

By:

Stuart B. Shapiro Reg. No. 40,169

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JES 0 J 2004	<u> </u>	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	Robert C. Hartman, Jr.	
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٠	(use as many sheets as necessary)				is necessary)	Examiner Name	Pham, Hung Q.	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Do	cument		Date of Publication of Cited		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Document MM-DD-YYYY		
		6,446,077	B2	Straube et al.	09-03-2002		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number.
² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.